

National Parks BioBlitz

iNaturalist Training Materials

Species Guide - How to Use

1. [Download a species guide to use without cellular or WiFi coverage](#)
2. [Use a species guide to “Add an Observation” in Android mobile application](#)
3. [Use a species guide to “Add an Observation” in iOS mobile application](#)



NPS Photo, 2015 BioBlitz at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

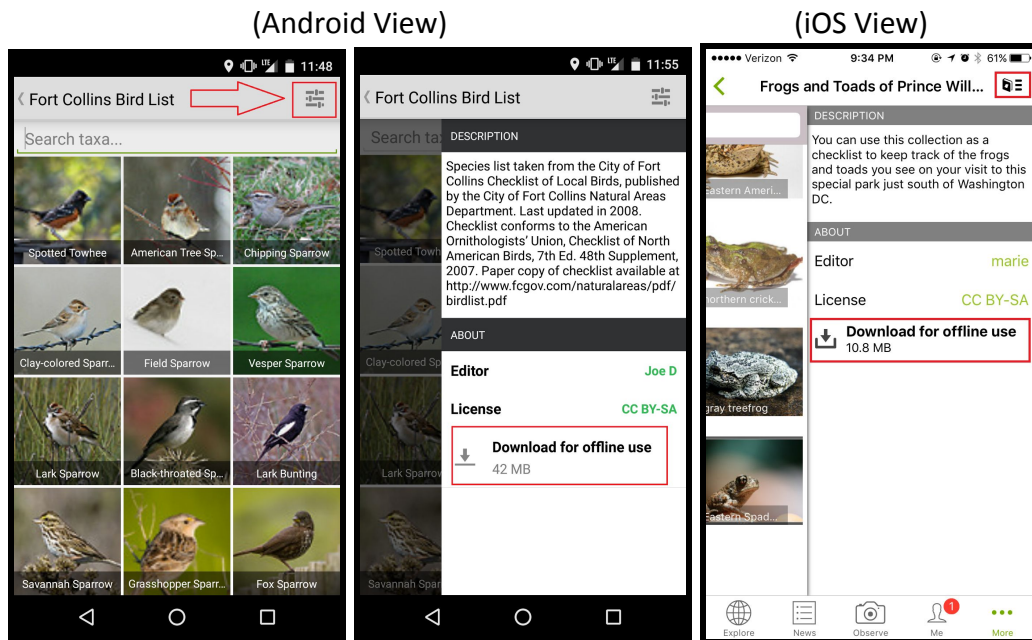
Check out these [FAQs](#) and [“Getting Started”](#) pages on www.inaturalist.org for more guidance!

1. Download a species guide to use without cellular or WiFi coverage

You can download the guide to your mobile device so that you don't need cellular network or WiFi coverage to view it.

It would be a good idea to download relevant guides at home or at WiFi hotspots near the park before heading out on your inventory.

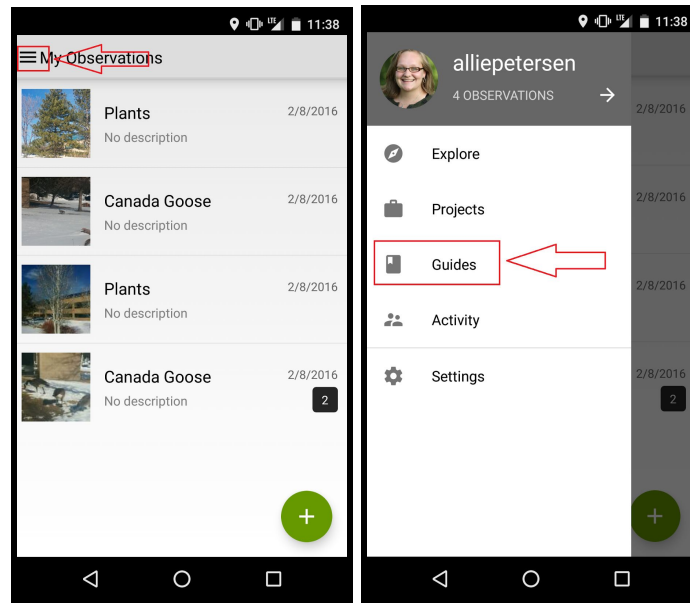
In the guide you want to download click the icon in the upper-right corner of the screen. Select "Download for offline use" from the bottom of the menu.



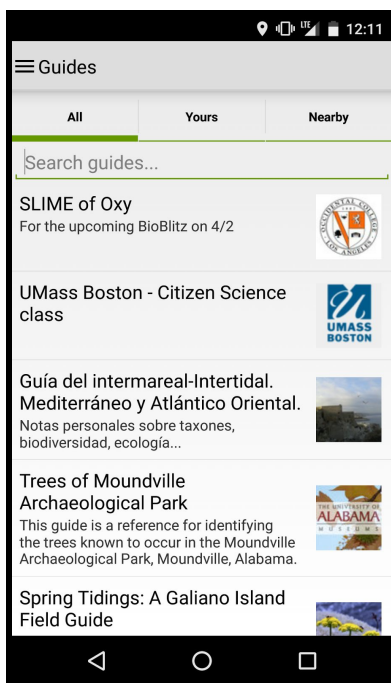
Click "OK" when it asks your "Are you sure?".
You can now use the guide in the field without cell or WiFi coverage.

2. Use a species guide to “Add an Observation” in Android mobile application

Open the iNaturalist application on your mobile device. Select the 3 bars in the upper-left corner of the application and choose “Guides” from the menu.

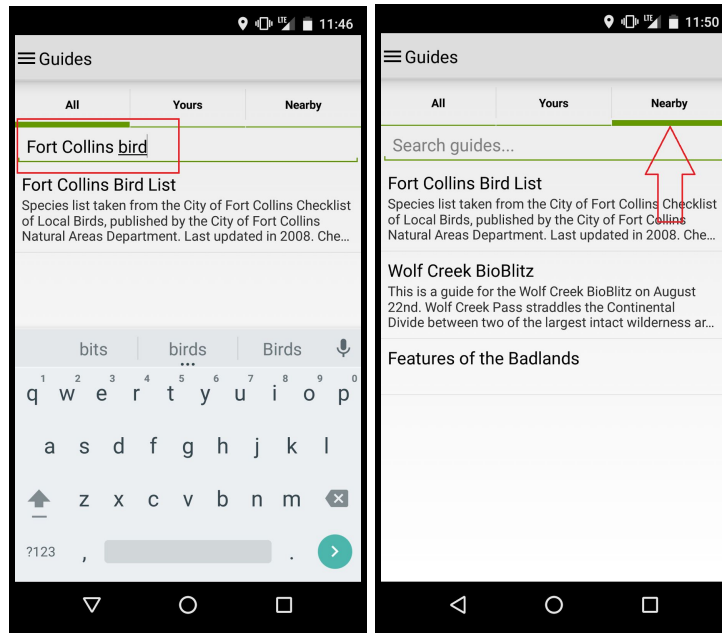


You will now see a list of guides. You can search from the entire iNaturalist guide library (“All”), those created/edited by you (“Yours”) or those near your current GPS location (“Nearby”).



You will likely see some relevant guides in the “Nearby” tab when you are on site at the National Parks BioBlitz.

When you find an organism you want to observe, search for the best guide to help you identify it. For example, I am in Fort Collins, CO trying to identify a bird so that is what I search for.



This guide also appears under the “Nearby” tab so I can select it from there as well.

Select the appropriate guide from the list that appears. You will now see a grid of photos to help you identify which bird you’re seeing.



From here you have a couple of options.

- If you have some idea of what the organism you're observing is you can "Search taxa" at the top of the guide to narrow the search. Ex: sparrow.



You will now only see birds in the guide that are some species of sparrow.

- Alternatively, you can simply scroll through the guide until you see a photo that shows the same species you are observing.



Clicking on a photo will reveal more details about the associated species.

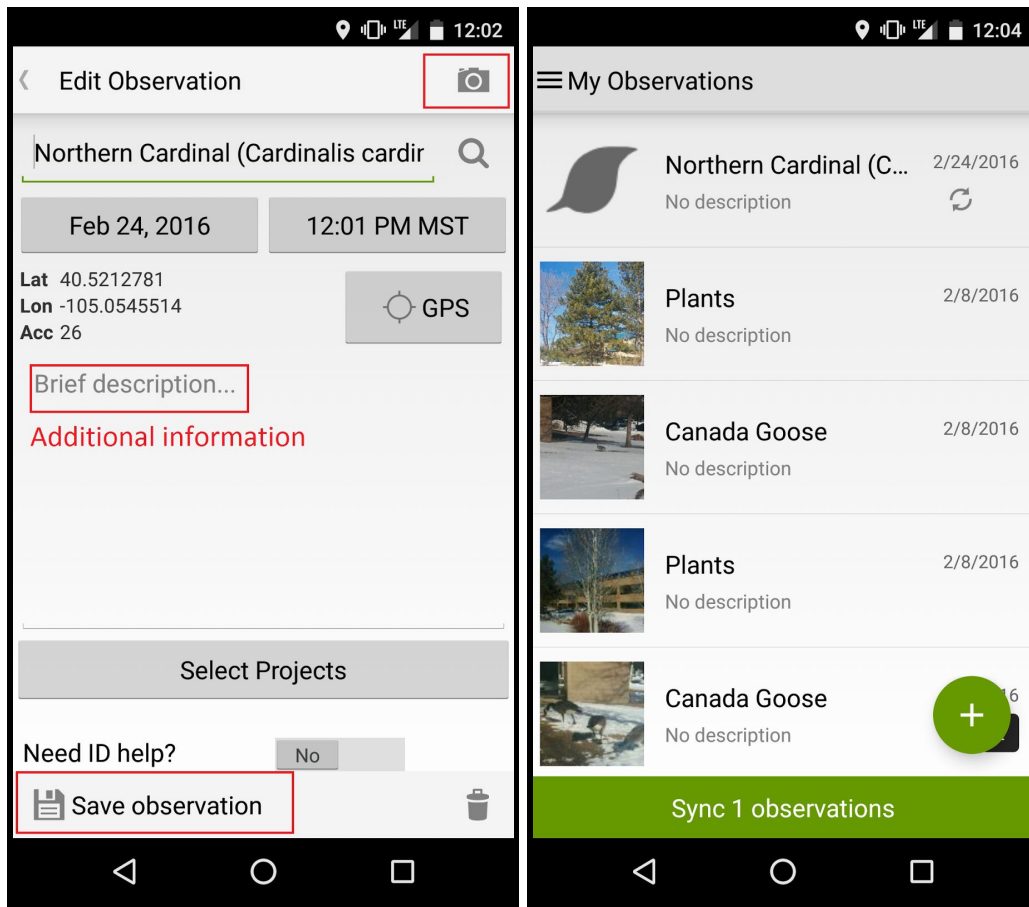


Once you have found the species you wish to observe click on the photo, then “Add” in the upper-right corner of the screen.



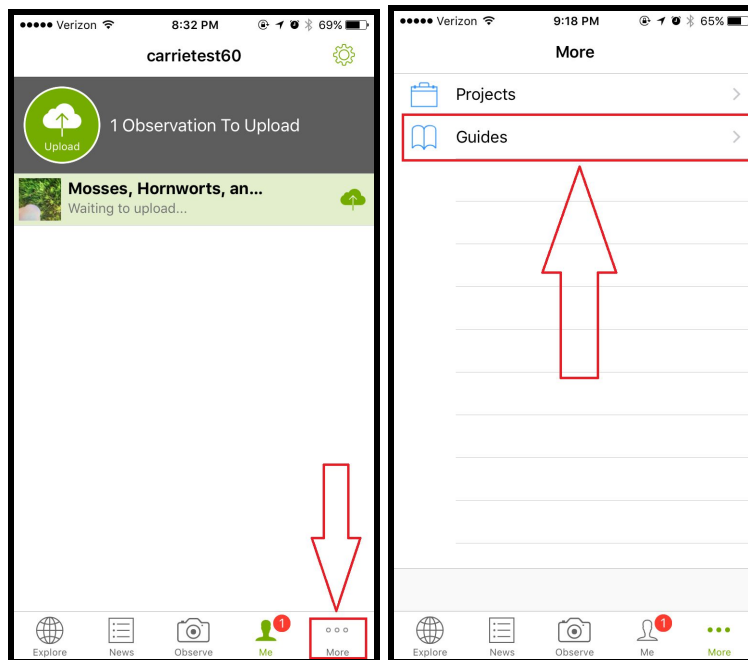
From there simply proceed with the observation as you normally would. Add additional information if applicable.

- Add a photo by selecting the camera icon in the upper-right corner of the screen. From there you can add a photo from your device's library or take one with your device's camera.
- Then just "Save observation" and it will appear in your application observation feed.



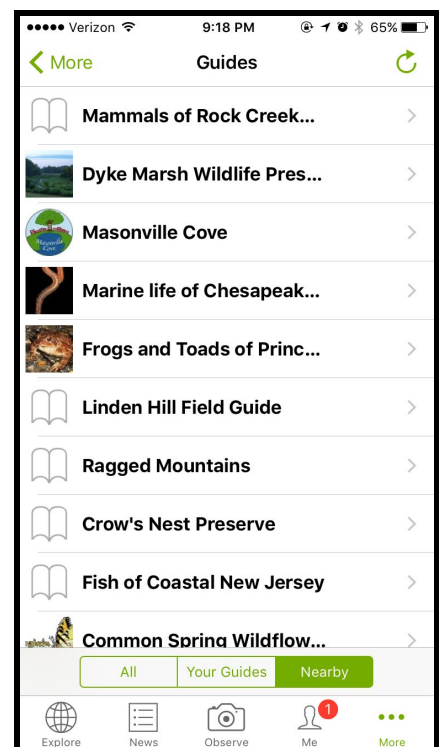
3. Use a species guide to “Add an Observation” in iOS mobile application

Open the iNaturalist application on your mobile device. Select the “More” icon in the lower-right corner of the screen and choose “Guides” from the menu.



You will now see a list of guides. You can search from the entire iNaturalist guide library (“All”), those created/edited by you (“Yours”) or those near your current GPS location (“Nearby”).

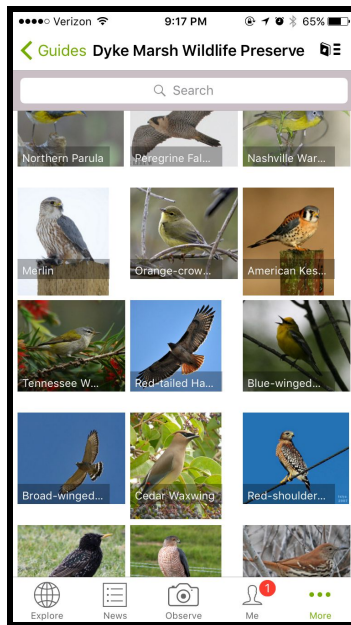
You will likely see some relevant guides in the “Nearby” tab when you are on site at the National Parks BioBlitz.



When you find an organism you want to observe, search for the best guide to help you identify it. For example, I am in Dyke Marsh trying to identify a bird so that is what I search for.

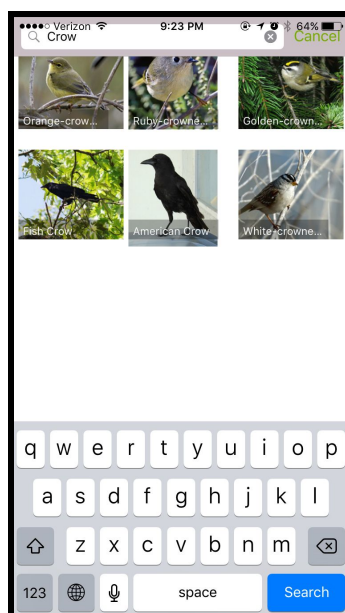
This guide also appears under the “Nearby” tab so I can select it from there as well.

Select the appropriate guide from the list that appears. You will now see a grid of photos to help you identify which bird you’re seeing.



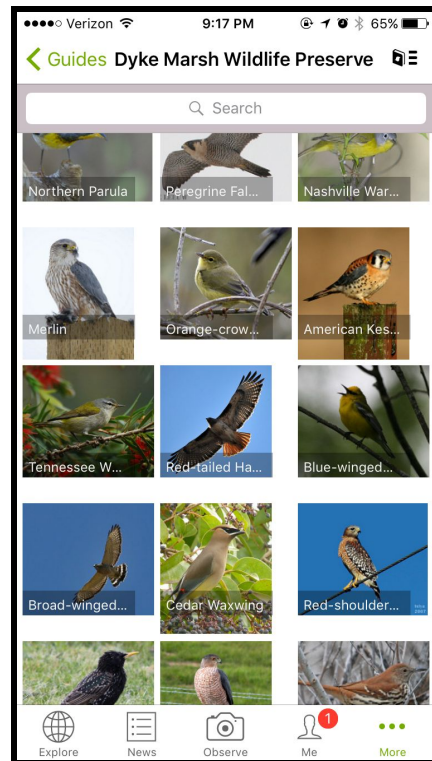
From here you have a couple of options.

→ If you have some idea of what the organism you’re observing is you can “Search” at the top of the guide to narrow the search. Ex: crow.



You will now only see birds in the guide that are some species of crow.

➔ Alternatively, you can simply scroll through the guide until you see a photo that shows the same species you are observing.



Clicking on a photo will reveal more details about the associated species.



Once you have found the species you wish to observe click on the photo, then “Observe” in the upper-right corner of the screen.



From there simply proceed with the observation as you normally would. Add additional information if applicable.

- Add a photo by selecting the camera icon in the upper-right corner of the screen. From there you can add a photo from your device's library or take one with your device's camera.
 - Then just “Save” and it will appear in your application observation feed.